



STATE OF MARYLAND

DHMH

Maryland Department of Health and Mental Hygiene

Board Of Physical Therapy Examiners

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 16, 2007

The October 16, 2007 meeting was called to order at 1:10 p.m. by the Vice Chairperson, Shirley Leeper, PTA.

Call to Order

Board members present:

Shirley Leeper, PTA
Lori Mizell, PT
Donald Novak, PT
Lois Rosedom-Boyd, Consumer Member
Stephen Ryan, PT

Also present:

Ann E. Tyminski, Executive Director
Joy E. Aaron, Deputy Director
Linda Bethman, AAG, Board Counsel
Sandra Kurland, Board Secretary
Patricia Miller, Licensing Coordinator
Ernest Bures, Investigator/Compliance Officer
Patrick Rooney, Investigator

Absent:

Chairperson Margery Rodgers, PT
Darren Burns, Esq., Consumer Member (arrived for Exceptions Hearing)

The minutes of the meeting held on September 19th were reviewed and approved as written.

Minutes

The first order of business was to welcome the Carroll Community PTA students. They were given a folder containing information about licensing and the laws and regulations. Ms. Miller instructed them on the licensure process and Mrs. Tyminski spoke to them about the Board and its functions. The Board members introduced themselves.

Welcome

Mrs. Tyminski said that hopefully the CEU regulation proposal will be in place before the legislative session and in force before the next renewal period.

CEU Proposal

The Department has decided that Mr. Phil Hemler will meet with our IT personnel and Social Work Board staff to better understand the online renewal process and the database we currently use. They were under the misconception that the

Database Audit

Board had four separate databases, which is untrue. The Board has one database, which all the functions are tied into. Mrs. Tyminski told the PTA students that they should visit the Board's website and that they could find applications and conduct verifications online.

Charlene DelRosario is one of the twenty PTs who had their National scores invalidated due to the testing scandal in the Philippines. The Board sent a letter which gave her until November 15 to register and retake the national exam or her license will be voided. As yet, she has not been located and no address has been found for her in MD. It is believed that she is back in New York or the Philippines.

Charlene Del
Rosario

Mrs. Tyminski received an e-mail from David Burnham in reference to a PT home health visit with no doctor or nurse present. He wanted to know if the patient who has been prescribed pain meds could take the meds to coincide with the scheduled PT visit. The Board suggested that if they are to be taken as needed that would be acceptable but physical therapists cannot change physician orders as to when medications can be taken. Mr. Burnham will be so informed.

David Burnham

Jaspreet Kaur requested that the Board remove the \$100 fine imposed on her for failure to notify us of her change of address. Joy Aaron stated that Ms. Kaur has since paid the fine. The Board stated that if no proof is provided that an address change was sent or a follow-up made to verify the change with us, then the fine is valid.

Jaspreet Kaur

Reinstituting travel to the colleges to explain the licensure process was discussed. The practice had ceased when the Board was short staffed. A Board member and a staff member used to conduct the visits, then it became the Executive Director and the Licensing Coordinator. It was decided to postpone a decision until the next meeting.

Reinstitute
School Visits

Mrs. Tyminski received an e-mail from Susan Cecere, PT, concerning the new IEP listing only the physical therapist as provider. The PT is to develop a treatment plan and the PTA is to perform treatment. The question really is the definition of a "therapist". Ms. Cecere will be informed that PTs and PTAs are both licensed in Maryland and can perform physical therapy treatments.

Susan Cecere re
IEPs

In a letter to the Board, Diana Weinrich asks if a contract therapist is obligated to identify him/herself to a nursing home patient they are treating. It was decided that it should be up to the individual company to set policy in how their employees identify themselves.

Diana Weinrich
re introductions

Medstar Employees serving on the Continuing Education Committee will not review Medstar course offerings, as it could pose a conflict of interest, so Steve Ryan will serve as an alternate member of the that committee to review such courses.

Medstar CEU
applications

Volunteers were solicited to write articles for the upcoming Winter Newsletter. Mr. Novak, Ms. Leeper, Mr. Bures, Mr. Rooney and Ms. Bethman all volunteered.

Winter
Newsletter

Reports:

All board members received an income summary for the previous month. Mrs. Tyminski stated that we will soon be using our excess funds, and in a couple of years the Board will need to seriously consider raising fees.

Income
Summary

The Board of Physicians has spearheaded a task force to tackle the possible licensure of Athletic Trainers. Mrs. Tyminski reported that at a recent meeting the Physicians Board had written language for such a bill. However, the athletic trainers would not compromise and still insist on a scope of practice that would infringe on physical therapy, occupational therapy and chiropractic scopes. The meeting ended with Delegate Hammond instructing the legislative counsel for his committee to draft language acceptable to the Physicians, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy and Chiropractic Boards. He also advised the Athletic Trainers that if they want licensure they had better be accepting of a limited scope of practice. He further said he would hold the bill until the end of the session.

Athletic
Trainers

Mrs. Tyminski reported on the APTA Legislative Meeting. She presented the Board bill that will would abolish temporary licensure and asked APTA not to oppose it. There was also discussion on animal physical therapy. APTA wishes to continue to educate legislators on this issue and does not feel a bill would pass this coming session..

APTA
Legislative
Meeting

Ms. Leeper spoke about the APTA Maryland Board of Directors meeting, held on September 20, 2007. The new Executive Director is Suzie Callan. The names submitted to fill the vacancy on our Board are Janna Jacobs, Mike Wah, and John Baker. The meeting also dealt with the 2008 budget.

APTA
Board
Meeting

The FARB Attorneys Conference will be discussed at the next Board meeting

FARB

Mr. Bures commented on the continuing education course on documentation. Mr. Bures stated that it was free and open to anyone. He spoke very highly of the instructor, Steven Levine, who he said was an excellent speaker. This course was offered by University of Maryland.

Continuing
Education
Course

Information:

The new visitor policy reflects the state's concern with security. It gives specifics about requirements for entering the Metro Office Building.

Visitor
Policy

A copy of the Fall 2007 Chiropractic news letter was included in the board's packet.

Chiro
News

The open session of the meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m. to enter into Administrative Session to discuss disciplinary actions. It then suspended the Administrative Session at 2:55 to enter an exceptions hearing, following which the Board re-entered Administrative Session to complete discussion of disciplinary cases. The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Adjournment

December 11, 2007
Date Approved:

Ms. Ann E. Tyminski
Ann E. Tyminski, Executive Director

Shirley Leeper
Shirley Leeper, Vice Chairperson